MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 JANUARY 1986

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's statement inviting President Reagan to Libya was reported by TANJUG but monitored Libyan media have not thus far been observed to mention the invitation. As for Libya's response to U.S. sanctions, JANA noted that the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has urged an Arab boycott of U.S. goods, services, and tourists. The agency also carried a Foreign Liaison Bureau statement stressing that U.S. nationals in Libya enjoy freedom of residence and movement and can leave the Jamahiriyah whenever they like.

Meanwhile, the foreign liaison secretary viewed the recent ICO conference as a "massive demonstration of solidarity" with Libya, JANA reported. Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, alias Abu Musa, and other leaders of the Fatah "Provisional Command" also expressed support for Libya during a 12 January meeting with Col al-Qadhdhafi, according to JANA. In Tunis, the PLO's permanent delegate to the Arab League expressed mainstream PLO support for "all the Libyan moves" on Arab, regional, and international levels, Aden Voice of Palestine radio reported. In another development, Libyan sources quoted by the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD* claimed that Egypt has withdrawn troops from the Libyan border and has urged an end to the media campaigns between the two countries, according to QNA.

On the military level, monitored Libyan media were not observed to mention or confirm KUNA's report that Libyan SAM's downed an unidentified aircraft over the Gulf of Sidra 8 January. The Kuwaiti agency, citing a "diplomatic source" in Beirut, linked the alleged incident with the loss of a U.S. F-18 over the Mediterranean that day, claiming that both Libya and the United States remained silent over the matter so as not to exacerbate the situation.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The ICO foreign ministers conference expressed its solidarity with and "effective support" for the Libyan people in the defense of their "territorial integrity and sovereignty," noting the "continued provocations" and "escalation of aggression" by "world imperialism" and Israel against Libya, according to a Rabat radio report on the final day's proceedings held 10 January. The conference also denounced the "storming" of the Al-'Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem by the "Zionist authorities," as well as the resumption by "some countries" of diplomatic relations with Israel, the radio added. The final statement made no mention of the Iran-Iraq war, the radio later noted, broadcasting remarks by Iraq's foreign minister, who explained that Iraq dropped its call for a conference appeal on the war in order to preserve "unity and solidarity" among the Islamic states.

On Col al-Qadhdhafi's request for an emergency Arab foreign ministers' meeting, the Bahraini foreign minister disclosed that the session will convene in Tunis at the end of January, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Interception of U.S. Ship; Iran-Iraq War

Iranian naval patrol units seized the U.S. commercial ship *President Taylor* in international waters of the Gulf of Oman 12 January, Tehran radio reported. The "suspicious" vessel was released after a 2-hour inspection revealed that none of its cargo was destined for Iraq, the radio added. The FRG ship *Ville du Sahara*, seized and conducted to a southern Iranian port 9 January, was also released following a cargo inspection, the radio further revealed.

In a separate development, Iraqi planes conducted raids against Khark Island 11 and 12 January, according to Iraqi military communiques cited by Voice of the Masses radio. However, oil continues to be exported from Khark and "major" new oil deposits have been discovered in the country, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi told a Turkish paper in an interview reported by IRNA. On the battlefield, Iranian troops foiled two Iraqi counterattacks in the Hawr al-'Azim area 10 and 11 January, killing over 100 Iraqi troops, according to an Iranian military communique reported by Tehran radio. Meanwhile, the Iranian Air Force "last week" conducted its first extensive aerial maneuvers since the 1979 revolution, IRNA reported, citing the Air Force commander. Real bombs were used in the "highly successful" maneuvers in which tens of jet fighters, bombers, and fuel tankers participated, IRNA added.

Lebanon

Inter-Christian Clash — "Mercenaries belonging to the man in the palace" were responsible for recent attacks on Lebanese Forces personnel and citizens in the Northern al-Matn area, Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah contended in a statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio 13 January. He disclosed that Lebanese Forces military units have been instructed to pursue the "agitators and saboteurs," warning those responsible for the "acts of aggression" that the Forces are capable of punishing them. In a related development, the Voice of Lebanon warned citizens to keep off the streets in the Northern al-Matn because of fighting between the Lebanese Forces and their opponents. The radio claimed that "certain hireling groups" timed their attacks on Forces personnel to coincide with President Amin al-Jumayyil's departure for Damascus in the hope that such actions would strengthen his position.

"Official sources" cited by Beirut radio had earlier confirmed that Al-Jumayyil will present "observations" on the tripartite agreement during his 13 January meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, adding that the observations do not mean "war" on the agreement but rather are an attempt to rectify and improve it. Nevertheless, Al-Jumayyil will not proceed with any

agreement that does not take his observations into consideration, according to press reports cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Syrian SAM's — Despite the Syrian foreign minister's denial that his country has withdrawn its SAM's from Lebanon, senior IDF sources reaffirmed that the Syrian SAM-6 and SAM-8 batteries have been withdrawn, Jerusalem radio reported.

Israel

In a "marathon" session 12-13 January, the Inner Cabinet reached agreement on the "political package deal" with Egypt that includes the Tabah issue, Jerusalem radio reported. A Cabinet communique broadcast by the radio stated that the Tabah issue and other Egyptian-Israeli border disputes will be resolved through arbitration, following an initial stage of conciliation. Egypt will return its resident ambassador to Israel and a timetable will be established for the implementation of trade, political, and other agreements, the communique noted, adding that the two countries will "prevent the presence or activity of terrorists from one country directed against the other and its citizens." The Inner Cabinet agreement complies with "previous understandings" with Egypt, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres later told a Jerusalem radio correspondent. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi told the radio that Likud agreed to the arrangement following the incorporation of "safety valves," such as the 8-month conciliation period, the stance on terrorism, and the "parallel and simultaneous nature" of all steps in the package.

In a separate development, Jerusalem radio reported that one border policeman was killed and another injured in a shooting incident in Nabulus 11 January.

Iran

Iran and India signed a protocol on scientific and cultural cooperation 12 January at the conclusion of a visit to Tehran by Indian External Affairs Minister Beli Ram Bhagat, IRNA reported. Bhagat met with the president, foreign minister, and Majlis speaker during his 3-day visit, the report added. Bhagat informed Iran that India would not take sides regarding the Iran-Iraq war, according to Delhi radio.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 008 *13 January 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. Moves Against Libya ..... C 1
PDPA Politburo, Revolutionary Council Meet Jointly ..... C 1
Council of Ministers Session on Elections Held ..... C 2
Two Hundred Surrender to Security Forces ..... C 2

BANGLADESH

UK's Eggar Announces New Test for Immigrants ..... D 1
Ershad Reiterates Determination To Hold Elections ..... D 1
Ershad Says Boycott To Perpetuate Martial Law *[Delhi]* ..... D 1
University Authorities Appeal for Campus Peace ..... D 1

INDIA

TIMES OF INDIA: Gorbachev To Visit 'This Year' *[4 Jan]* ..... E 1
Gandhi Inducts MiG-27 Aircraft Into Air Force ..... E 1
Gandhi Assures Implementation of Punjab Accord ..... E 1
PDRY's al-'Attas Arrives in Delhi on 2-day Visit ..... E 2
Netherlands Queen Arrives on 11-Day Visit ..... E 2
Bhagat: No New Initiative To End Iran-Iraq War ..... E 2
Radio Reports Outcome of Trade Talks in Islamabad ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Supports Islamic Stand on Libya-U.S. Dispute ..... F 1
Iranian President Arrives in Islamabad 13 Jan ..... F 1
Khamene'i Airport Statement ..... F 1
Indian Official Arrives To Discuss Siachen Situation ..... F 1
Received by Ziaul Haq ..... F 1
Joint Statement Issued ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

Colombo Reports Tamil Groups Call Off Cease-Fire ..... G 1
AFP Adds Details ..... G 1
Gandhi Asked To Supply Arms ..... G 1
13 'Terrorists' Killed, Arms Captured in Clash 10 Jan ..... G 1

IRAN

Navy Releases Seized U.S., FRG Merchant Ships ..... I 1
Khamene'i Departs for Pakistan, PDRY, Africa 13 Jan ..... I 1
Interview With Pakistan TV ..... I 1
Besharati, Libyan Discuss 'Confrontation' With U.S. ..... I 2
Declaration Urges Muslims To Remove Funds From U.S. ..... I 2
Indian Foreign Minister Arrives in Tehran 10 Jan ..... I 2
Confers With Hashemi-Rafsanjani ..... I 2
Cultural, Technical Protocol Signed ..... I 3

Thai Delegation Arrives for Economic Talks ..... I 3
New Shipping Terminal Opened at Bandar-e 'Abbas ..... I 3
Musavi Notes Discovery of New Oil Deposits ..... I 4
Air Force Conducts First Extensive Successful Maneuver ..... I 4
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 4
Communique No 2,346 ..... I 4
Communique No 2,347 ..... I 5
Communique No 2,348 ..... I 5
Iraqi Counterattacks Repulsed ..... I 5

Foreign Ministry Condemns U.S. Moves Against Libya

LD120757 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 11, BAKHTAR. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, DRA, in a statement issued here today vehemently condemns the sinister actions taken by the United States against the state and people of Libya. The statement calls for the immediate termination of American military preparations and the lifting of economic sanctions against Libya.

The Ministry in its statement has expected the United Nations organizations and other international organs to convince the United States administration to take off its aggressive hands from Libya.

The United States, the statement emphasizes, has always engaged in exerting pressures on Libya through military maneuvers and irresponsible provocations aimed at aggravating tension around that country. The U.S. administration through its Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, has even attempted against Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's life who is pursuing an independent national and anti-imperialist policy.

The recent developments of the situation around Libya show that the American sources not only have not yet abandoned its aggressive plots under various pretexts against this independent and sovereign country but Washington is seeking a pretext to pave the ground for direct intervention against it with the help of its puppet regime, Israel.

The imposition of economic sanctions and military maneuvers by U.S. administration for alledgedly claiming that the Government of Libya had a hand in the operations of Rome and Vienna airports have taken place despite the fact that Washington could not present any evidence for involving Libya in the airport events the Governments of Italy and Austria have explicitly not accepted. Libya's Government itself has also refuted terrorism and has denied its implication in the event, the statement stresses.

Ronald Reagan's executive decree, the statement pointed out, on the withdrawal of 1500 American citizens from Libya and their subjection to legal penalty in case of not complying with the decree, the freezing of Libyan assets in the American banks are indicative of the fact that Washington takes the first steps through economic boycott against Libya for a subsequent direct intervention.

The mobilisation of American military forces, the statement notes, in Mediterranean and in military bases of its allies in collusion with Israel, the increase of military personnel, arms and ammunitions in the common Egyptian and Libyan border, the intensification of press war and the propaganda rumours of bombarding Libyan establishments by the U.S. are all the indications proving the real objective of the United States for an eminent aggression against Libya.

It is natural that the preparation of Washington for war and adventurism not only results in disrupting the stability of the situation in the region but it also jeopardizes peace throughout the world, the statement points out.

Indeed, such actions by the United States run counter to Ronald Reagan's assertions in Geneva where he had allegedly shown his desire for the resolution of the regional conflicts, said the statement in conclusion.

PDPA Politburo, Revolutionary Council Meet Jointly

LD101226 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] A joint session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has been held.

The session discussed, in accordance with the principled policy of the PDPA and the DRA Government, further broadening the social pillars of the people's revolutionary sovereignty.

At the beginning of the session, Babrak Karmal pointed out that, in accordance with the resolutions of the historic Loya Jirga of the people of Afghanistan, the high tribal jirga, and the statement of the DRA Revolutionary Council dated 18 Aqrab 1364 [9 November 1985] and decisions of the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, the participation and inclusion of the credible and clear-sighted representatives of all classes and strata of the people, social groups, nationalities, tribes and clans residing in the country — all nonparty elements — in the composition of the DRA Revolutionary Council, would be discussed and assessed.

It was emphasized at this session that the publication of the 10 theses on the national and democratic characteristic of the April revolution and its immediate (?issues) under the present circumstances, was regarded at national and international level as a great victory for the people of Afghanistan by our friends and even our enemies.

The first government steps have been taken for the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. This was broadly reflected in the country's media, which informed the public several times about the appointment of a number of nonparty individuals to the government machinery as representatives of various strata and nationalities of the society. This practical action carried out by the party and government was welcomed with enthusiasm and patriotism by the country's people.

Today's issue, which is a proposal on a twofold enlargement of the DRA Revolutionary Council, demonstrates that the task of broadening democracy in sociopolitical life, is continuously being (?followed) and the party and government are confidently taking new steps for even further broad attraction of the classes, strata of the people, and social and national groups, including tribes, nationalities and clans of the country.

The joint session emphasized that the Revolutionary Council should consist of representatives of all strata and classes, including workers, peasants, tradesman and guilds, intellectuals, landlords, middle class clergy, private, commercial and industrial

investors, as well as all nationalities, tribes, and clans in Afghanistan.

The proposed candidates by the the country's social organizations, such as the NFF, DYOA, DWOA, and DRA trade unions, the union of initiative intellectuals, consultative jirgas of nationalities and tribes, the High Council of Ulema and Clergy, and the Economic Consultative Council, which will be included in the new composition of the DRA Revolutionary Council, will be announced by the country's media after the approval of the Revolutionary Council.

The Secretariat of the DRA Revolutionary Council then proposed better organization of affairs in the interests of the people and revolution. The proposal, which was approved, called for the creation of permanent commissions for planning, budget, legislation, culture, and international relations within the Revolutionary Council.

A proposal on the organization of a commission to draft the DRA Constitution was also approved.

The joint session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium decided that the above subjects should be presented to the extraordinary session of the DRA Revolutionary Council, which is due to convene in the near future, for consideration and a decision.

It was also reported at this joint session that there are many nonparty individuals in the machinery of the government who are discharging their duties earnestly and with devotion, who work for the people, homeland, and revolution with patriotic faithfulness [words indistinct] and who use all their potential, knowledge, and [word indistinct] for the construction of a new and democratic society.

Council of Ministers Session on Elections Held

LD111127 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The tenth session of the preparatory and convocation commission on election of the local organs of the state power and administration was held today in the conference hall of the Council of Ministers.

The preparatory and convocation commission on election of the local organs of the state power and administration, chaired by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, was convened on the basis of the joint resolution of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and [word indistinct] Revolutionary Council Presidium and the DRA Council of Ministers, dated 16 Sowr 1364 [May 1985].

This commission has been organizing practical work for the completion of the election of the local organs in cities and various provinces of the country and has constantly been supervising the election proceedings.

At today's session, the results of elections of the local organs of the state power and administration in Kabul City, Kabul, Badakhshan, Nimruz, Balkh, Nangarhar, Konduz and Jowzjan Province were comprehensively considered.

At today's session of the commission, a plan of measures for the final stage of elections in all provinces of the country was approved.

In accordance with these measures, the election of local organs of the state power and administration will be completed in another nine provinces by the end of 1364 [ending 21 March 1986] and the task of election in the whole country will be completed by the end of the third quarter of 1365 [ending December 1986].

Two Hundred Surrender to Security Forces

LD101803 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Our deceived compatriots who were under the influence of the enemies' hostile propaganda are continuing to come to the side of the government. Recently, a 235-man group belonging to the so-called Jamiyat-e Eslami band, led by Muhammad Yunis, surrendered to the security forces in Enjil District, Herat Province, having perceived the truth of the April Revolution and taking advantage of the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council as well as the message of the historic Grand Assembly of Afghanistan. They brought with them a large number of weapons and ammunition. Among this number, 200 of them voluntarily joined the ranks of the armed forces.

UK's Eggar Announces New Test for Immigrants

BK101604 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Junior Minister Timothy Eggar has said his country is going to introduce [word indistinct] test in blood in April on an experimental basis for issuing entry certificates to the children of Bangladeshi immigrants in Britain. He was talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport today before his departure for Calcutta ending his 4-day visit to Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Office official said he never heard of the test before and that the British Government never discussed it with us.

Ershad Reiterates Determination To Hold Elections

BK121645 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Excerpt] President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has called upon the political parties to participate in the national elections for establishing a people's representative government in the country. He was addressing a mammoth public meeting at the Baitul Mukarram Square in Dhaka this afternoon. The president said we want to establish democracy and we will hold the elections once the date is announced. President Ershad said his government had repeatedly announced the dates for holding national elections to establish democracy, but due to the negative attitude of some opposition parties elections could not be held.

Turning to the situation prevailing in some of the educational institutions, he said this cannot be allowed to continue in the interest of proper academic atmosphere. The president said he had repeatedly made appeals in the past for maintaining academic atmosphere in the educational institutions. But some of the political parties have been using the students as their political pawns to achieve their selfish interest. He appealed to the people irrespective of opinions and party affiliations to help maintain academic atmosphere in educational institutions. Otherwise, he cautioned, the students and the nation will be ruined.

Turning to the workers, President Ershad listed the measures taken for them, like doubling their wages during the past 4 years. But, he observed, those who were in power in the past did nothing for the workers.

Referring to the question raised by a political party regarding the legality of the present government, the president said his government is very much legal as it has received verdict of the people through referendum and various other elections like upazila [subdistrict], union parishad [council], and paurosabha [municipal corporation]. The meeting — presided over by the minister for post and telecommunications, Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury — was also addressed by the works minister, Prof. M. A. Matin; communications minister, Moudud Ahmad; information minister, Shah Moazzam Hussain; and commerce minister, Kazi Zafar Ahmed.

Ershad Says Boycott To Perpetuate Martial Law

BK130428 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] The Bangladesh president, General Ershad, has warned that if the main opposition parties refuse to take part in April general elections, martial law will continue indefinitely. Addressing a rally organized by the progovernment Jatiya Party in Dhaka yesterday,he declared that he will neither lift the 4-year-old martial law nor give way to a caretaker administration before the elections are held. He added that the political parties will have to accept elections under the martial law or military rule will continue.

University Authorities Appeal for Campus Peace

BK110515 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] The highest decisionmaking body of Dhaka University, the syndicate, has appealed to the government, students, guardians, political parties, intellectuals, and all sections of the people to extend their cooperation for maintaining peaceful and congenial academic atmosphere in the campus. The syndicate in an emergency meeting yesterday with the vice chancellor in the chair also called upon the student organizations to help create and maintain an environment favorable for peaceful coexistence. The meeting requested the vice chancellor for holding talks with different organizations of the university on the present situation to find out a solution to the problem. It also constituted a 5-member inquiry committee.

TIMES OF INDIA: Gorbachev To Visit 'This Year'

BK101436 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 4 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] *THE TIMES OF INDIA* NEWS SERVICE, New Delhi, January 3, — The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail S. Gorbachev, is expected to visit India this year, according to indications here.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, told a CPSU delegation to the congress centenary session that he was looking forward to Mr Gorbachev's visit. He had been impressed by Mr Gorbachev as a statesman and as a person, he said.

This was stated here today by Mr Viktor G. Afanasyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and chief editor of *PRAVDA*, who led the Soviet delegation to the centenary celebrations.

Mr Afanasyev said the congress would also send a delegation to the Communist Party Congress in the USSR. The arrival of the CPSU representative delegation to the congress session was regarded by the prime minister as a great gesture, he said.

Mr Afanasyev said he had met the prime minister on three occasions and had conveyed greetings from the Soviet party.

Mr Afanasyev, who met the minister of state for information and broadcasting, Mr V. Gadgil, said that the two countries would intensify exchange of films and information. He said that such exchanges and visits by journalists would further improve bilateral relations.

He said the Soviet side conveyed its disappointment to Mr Gadgil over the inadequate coverage by Indian TV of the contemporary Soviet scene. The couple of films that had been broadcast portrayed Soviet history rather than its present-day life.

PTI adds: At the Indo-USSR seminar on trade relations here,the commerce minister, Mr Arjun Singh, today emphasised the need for having longer term export contracts between the Soviet Union and India to provide greater stability to export efforts.

Delivering the valedictory address, Mr Arjun Singh also called upon the Soviet Union to further intensify its marketing efforts to increase its export of machinery and equipment to India.

Indo-USSR trade had grown but its further growth depended on diversification of exports, he said.

While the seminar was bound to throw up useful suggestions during its discussions, "what is most important is to implement some of them", he said.

Earlier, the industry minister, Mr N. D. Tiwari, said he was happy that the Soviet industry was making efforts to improve after-sales service and other commercial aspects of their exports of industrial and manufactured goods.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) president, Mr D. N. Patodia, expressed the Indian private sector's readiness to cooperate with Soviet enterprises for setting up industries in this country.

He said the private corporate sector accounted for nearly 80 percent of India's total exports to the Soviet Union.

Mr N. P. Jain, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, suggested a review of credit arrangements, and their implementation so far. He felt this could provide useful guidelines for the future.

As the two sides "identify new dimensions to our cooperation," it would be necessary to further streamline the working of the joint commission, he said.

Gandhi Inducts MiG-27 Aircraft Into Air Force

BK111618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today inducted the latest advanced strike aircraft MiG-27 in the Indian Air Force at a western air base. Named as Bahadur, the single engine supersonic aircraft is capable of carrying armament loads which can be released with utmost precision at high speed. Its swing-wing design has facilitated its capability to fly at supersonic speed at high and at sea level altitudes. It requires only 800 meters distance for take off and hence can be used even in damaged airfields. Bahadur being manufacutred by India by the Hindustan Aeronautics at Nasik [in Maharashtra] is going to be the mainstay of the Indian Air Force strike force for the rest of the century and early 21st century.

Speaking on the occasion, the prime minister expressed appreciation that the pilots and technicians of the MiG-27 were trained within the country. He stressed the need for greater thrust to the indigenous drive to building and designing advanced jet aircraft.

Gandhi Assures Implementation of Punjab Accord

BK111623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] The prime minister has expressed confidence that the Mathews Commission set up under the Punjab accord to deal with the boundary dispute [between Punjab and Haryana] will give its recommendations well before the 26th of this month. This has been stated in a joint statement issued in New Delhi by 9 Congress-I members of Parliament from Punjab who called on him. According to the statement, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said territorial villages and areas to be awarded to either side will be done in a manner without any prejudice. He strongly refuted certain statements by some Akali leaders that there is unwritten commitment or understanding beside the memorandum of settlement on Punjab signed by him and the late Sant Harchand Singh Longowal. The accord is an open document, explicit and clear in its content. The center is committed to implement it in totality, the prime minister told the delegation.

The signatories to the statement include the All India Congress Committee-I general secretary, Mr R.L. Bhatia; the Punjab

State Congress-I president, General R.S. Sparrow; the G.S. Dhillon, Mr Satpal Mittal; Mr H.S. Hanspal; and Mrs Amarjit Kaur.

PDRY's al-'Attas Arrives in Delhi on 2-day Visit

BK121637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] The prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Mr Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, arrived in New Delhi a short while ago on a 2-day visit. He was received by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr K.R. Narayanan. In a statement at the airport, he said he will exchange views with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on issues of joint concern and will also discuss bilateral relations.

Netherlands Queen Arrives on 11-Day Visit

BK121647 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands arrived in Goa today on the first leg of her 11-day visit to the country. She is accompanied by her husband, Prince Claus. The royal couple were received at Dabolim Airport by Lieutenant Governor Dr Gopal Singh. Queen Beatrix and her entourage leave Goa for Delhi on Tuesday [14 January].

Bhagat: No New Initiative To End Iran-Iraq War

BK130955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B. R. Bhagat, has said that there is no fresh Indian initiative to end the Iran-Iraq war. He was talking to newsmen at Dubayy Airport shortly after his arrival from Tehran last night. Replying to a question, Mr Bhagat said that India has made it clear that it would not take sides on this issue. India wants peace and stability in the region. He said India is very keen that the Gulf war should end at an early date. Mr Bhagat made an overnight halt in Dubayy before beginning his 5-day tour of Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates. He said he will discuss international and regional matters of mutual interest with leaders of these countries.

Radio Reports Outcome of Trade Talks in Islamabad

BK100905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] India and Pakistan have resolved an 8-year-old trade deadlock with Islamabad agreeing to open private trade with India on a gradual and selective basis. A memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed in Islamabad this morning by the finance ministers of the two countries. It suggested that Pakistan will allow the private sector imports from India in 42 items. The import of these Indian items have so far been channelized through the state-owned Trading Corporation of Pakistan. Pakistan is understood to have accepted in principle India's stand that the trade between the two countries should be within the framework of the GATT and nondiscriminatory in nature.

Addressing a joint news conference in Islamabad, the finance minister, Mr V.P. Singh, said his visit to Pakistan has yielded positive results because the economic activity was chosen to be the first step for an overall normalization of bilateral relations. He announced that direct telephone dialing between India and Pakistan will be introduced by the year end. Telex facilities will be further expanded on Lahore-Amritsar route. Shipping agreement is in the process of being finalized. It has also been decided to increase the frequency of air services on the existing links by the two national airlines. The passenger carrying capacity will be increased by the introduction of bigger aircraft.

The Pakistan finance minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said that imports from India in the public sector will include wheat, iron ore, manganese ore, and pesticides. He clarified that the joint ventures between the two sides will also be in the private sector. The federations of chambers of commerce and industries of the two countries will set up a committee to strengthen the framework of cooperation.

Ziaul Haq Supports Islamic Stand on Libya-U.S. Dispute

BK101530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan fully supports the stand adopted by Islamic countries on the current crisis between Libya and the United States. Talking to newsmen on his arrival at Wazirabad on a brief visit, he said that Pakistan fully agrees with the stand adopted by the Islamic foreign ministers conference at the Morrocan city of Fes.

The president said that the country now has a parliamentary system of government, and elected representatives are running the country's administration. In reply to a question, the president said that the Movement for Restoration of Democracy should end its unjust criticism and let the elected representatives work for the next 5 years.

A delegation of Wazirabad people called on the president. Earlier, a large number of people warmly welcomed the president when he arrived in Wazirabad.

Iranian President Arrives in Islamabad 13 Jan

BK130836 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Iranian President Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed'Ali Khamene'i was given an extremely enthusiastic welcome when he arrived in Islamabad a short while ago on a 3-day official visit to Pakistan. When the distinguished guest alighted from the plane, he was welcomed by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq first and then by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, who warmly hugged him. A beautifully dressed child presented a bouquet to the distinguished guest. After this, the Iranian president was taken to the reviewing stand, and a smartly turned out armed forces contingent served as guard of honor and the national anthems of the two countries were played. The distinguished guest was given a 21-gun salute.

Khamene'i Airport Statement

BK131035 Karachi Domestict Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The Iranian president, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, was given a warm and enthusiastic welcome when he arrived in Islamabad today on a 3-day state visit to Pakistan. He is accompanied by a high-powered delegation, including ministers, members of the Majlis, senior officials, and representatives of the Iranian media.

In a statement circulated by his office at the airport, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i expressed the hope that his first official visit to Pakistan would lead to the expansion of mutual relations. It would also strengthen the bonds of friendship and amity between Pakistan and Iran and would cement the unity among the Islamic countries. He believed that at a time when the Muslims all over the world were faced with difficulties and problems and Muslim nations were being threatened by great dangers from imperialism, his visit to Pakistan would result in important achievements. The statement said that the Iranian president would discuss with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq all aspects of mutual cooperation as well as the regional situation, and international problem.

Indian Official Arrives To Discuss Siachen Situation

BK101632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] A 5-member Indian delegation, led by Indian Defense Secretary S.K. Bhatnagar, arrived in Rawalpindi this afternoon. During its stay in Pakistan, the delegaton will hold two rounds of talks on the situation in the Siachen region. The talks are the outcome of the consensus arrived at between President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi last month. Pakistani Defense Secretary Iglal Hyder Zaidi was among others who received the Indian delegation when it arrived in Rawalpindi.

Indian Defense Secretary S.K. Bhatnagar later made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi. Defense Secretary Iglal Hyder Zaidi and Indian Ambassador to Pakistan Shilendra Kumar Singh were also present on the occasion.

Received by Ziaul Haq

BK111730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] The Indian defense secretary, Mr S.K. Bhatnagar, accompanied by members of his delegation called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. They exchanged views with the president on matters of mutual interest.

Joint Statement Issued

BK121025 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] The 2-day talks on the problem of Siachen area between the defense secretaries of Pakistan and India ended in Rawalpindi today. A joint statement issued at the conclusion of the talks said the purpose of the meeting was to seek a peaceful resolution of the problem of Siachen Glacier as a step toward easing of tension and creation of an atmosphere conducive to further normalization and development of good-neighborly relations between the two countries. The two defense secretaries had cordial and frank discussions during which each of them explained their respective positions. These discussions enabled both sides to achieve a better appreciation of each other's point of view. The two defense secretaries expressed the determination of their governments to seek a peaceful and negotiated settlement of this problem in accordance with the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

The Indian defense secretary extended an invitation to the Pakistan defense secretary to visit India in late March or early April this year to continue the dialogue. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

SRI LANKA

Colombo Reports Tamil Groups Call Off Cease-Fire

BK131123 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Terrorist Tamil groups in New Delhi have said that they were calling off an 8-month old truce with the Sri Lanka security forces. A REUTER report quoted the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency as saying that a spokesman for the Eelam National Liberation Front, the alliance of Tamil groups, had disclosed this to the news agency. The spokesman had said that the leaders of the alliance would meet soon in Madras to discuss their next move and brief the Indian Government on their stand regarding the truce.

AFP Adds Details

NC121318 Paris AFP in English 1312 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Jan 12 (AFP) — A Sri Lankan Tamil militant spokesman said today that a three-month-old ceasefire with the Sri Lankan Government was no longer valid and that defensive action would be taken to protect Tamils on the island. The spokesman, V. Balakumar, belongs to the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation (EROS), part of the Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF), an umbrella organisation based in the south Indian City of Madras in Tamil Nadu State which groups four of the five main Tamil militant groups.

The ENLF is to meet here in two days to discuss the ethinic situation in Sri Lanka and brief the Indian Government, which has been playing a mediatory role between the militants and the Colombo government, he said.

Mr. Balakumar said today the second truce agreement which went into effect on October 10 had been even less successful than the first one begun on June 18, and that there had been blatant violations by Sri Lankan security forces. He charged that a ceasefire monitoring committee had been openly "pro-government" and said it should be disbanded, particularly as its Tamil members had resigned.

Reports from Colombo said that committee members K. Sivathamby and K. Sivapalan representing the ENLF had handed in their resignations. The committee had failed to prevent or expose attacks by Sri Lankan forces on Tamils and had not implemented terms of reference adopted following talks with Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari, Mr. Balakumar said.

Meanwhile, authoritative sources in Colombo said immigration officials had begun processing citizenship applications for some 93,000 stateless Tamils of Indian origin, authoritative sources said today. They said the government had made the granting of citizenship a priority for about 44,000 of the descendants of Indian Tamils who were brught to Sri Lanka by the British during the last century, and left stateless when Sri Lanka became independent in 1948.

Under two agreements signed between Sri Lanka and India in 1964 and 1975, the countries pledged to grant citizenship to nearly one million of the stateless Tamils. India agreed to take 600,000 people and Sri Lanka said it would confer citizenship on some 375,000 of the Tamils, who were originally brought here as cheap labour to work on the country's tea plantations. However, India has so far only made about 420,000 of them citizens, while Sri Lanka has regularised the status of about 195,000, sources here said.

Gandhi Asked To Supply Arms

BK121126 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Military setback and fast depleting arsenal were forcing Tamil terrorist groups to adopt various measures to try to damage the country's economy and win back some international sympathy for themselves. The latest military defeat was last Friday [10 January] in northwest of Mullaittivu when the forces destroyed camps of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, killing 13 terrorists and capturing a large stock of arms and ammunition. After successive defeats in the eastern and northern provinces over the last couple of months, the 4-member Eelam National Liberation Front, ENLF, has written to the Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, urging him to arm the separatists so that they can achieve military parity. A letter from the ENLF which groups the LTTE, Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, TELO; the Eelam People's Revolutionary Front, EPRLF; and the Eelam Revolutionary Students Organization, EROS, was sent to Mr Gandhi about 4 weeks ago, the sources said. Well-informed sources said that the terrorists have lost the men and the material in the clashes over the last few months and are now faced with a depleted armory.

13 'Terrorists' Killed, Arms Captured in Clash 10 Jan

BK111128 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Thirteen terrorists were killed and a large haul of weapons was recovered when the security forces raided a terrorist hideout in Mullaittivu yesterday. These terrorists were members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam led by Velupillai Prabhakaran. In the ensuing gunbattle, one soldier was also killed and two others were injured. Security sources told the LANKA PUWATH that the operation was carried out while security forces were trying to trace an Indian Tamil family kidnapped by the terrorists. When the troops approached to the hideout, five terrorists had tried to fight it out. According to eyewitnesses, several terrorists fleeing toward the sea were seen dragging their injured colleagues.

In a separate incident in Mullaittivu last Wenesday [8 January], security forces arrested 10 terrorist suspects on information received from the public; 6 of them were later released after questioning. Two more terrorists were arrested at Urani, Batticaloa, yesterday. Security sources told the LANKA PUWATH that a group of separatist terrorists yesterday attacked troops protecting the people at Siyambalawewa. The troops returned the fire causing the terrorists to flee. The official bungalow of [words indistinct] in Kilinochchi was also destroyed by terrorists.

Navy Releases Seized U.S., FRG Merchant Ships

LD121724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Iranian Naval patrol units seized a commercial ship belonging to a U.S. company this morning. They released it after fully inspecting it and making certain that it was not carrying any cargo for the Iraqi regime.

According to an IRNA report, the ship, *President Taylor*, belonging to the American Presidents shipping line, was confiscated by naval patrol units in international waters of the Sea of Oman this morning because it was suspicious. After 2 hours of careful inspection and making certain that it was not carrying any cargo for the warmongering regime of Iraq, it was released.

The destination of the 39,000-ton ship was the UAE port of al-Fujayrah.

According to the same report, the German ship *Ville du Sahara*, which was seized on Thursday, 9 January 1986, and guided to one of our country's southern ports, was also released this afternoon after full inspection and making certain that it was not carrying any cargo for the Iraqi regime.

Khamene'i Departs for Pakistan, PDRY, Africa 13 Jan

LD130451 Tehran IRNA in English 0444 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 13, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamane'i left here for a trip to a number of Asian and African countries, Monday morning. President Khamene'i, heading a political, military and economic delegation, was seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

The president will start his tour with a trip to Pakistan and later will pay visits to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Angola.

Interview With Pakistan TV

LD121404 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, during an exclusive interview with a Pakistani Television reporter on the eve of his official visit to Pakistan, replied to questions put to him about various political, social, and cultural issues.

Referring to the successes achieved after the victory of the Islamic Revolution in spite of the circumstances and difficulties created by the enemies of the revolution, Mr Khamene'i stated during the interview:

Despite all these problems, we have achieved much success in various sectors but it is too early for the results of these successes to be seen by foreign observers as special and tangible phenomena. However, certainly such a future is on its way.

The state president, referring to the human talents which have been the cause of great progress in different kinds of human societies, described Islam's viewpoints on this subject. In reply to another question by the Pakistani reporter asking the president's opinion on a speedy solution to the problem of Afghanistan, Khamene'i stated: Just as we have declared on a number of occasions, the key to solving the Afghan problem is to take into account the people of Afghanistan, and if we protest about the aggression of foreign forces against Afghanistan, it is because injustice has been committed against the people of Afghanistan and that the territorial integrity of that country and its independence have been jeopardized. Therefore, the people of Afghanistan must be counted when it comes to negotiations, decision-making, the make-up of a future government, and in the formulations of internal and external relations. This is because without any doubt, it is the people who are central to the future. If we take into consideration the people of Afghanistan — a Muslim nation with faith that wishes to abide to Islamic norms and values — the problem of Afghanistan will doubtlessly be solved, and the basic solution is for the Russians to evacuate Afghanistan as soon as possible. The occupying forces should leave that country and the Afghans should themselves bring about and form the kind of government they want. This is the solution to the problem of Afghanistan.

In relation to the imposed war and its solution, the president, replying to the Pakistani reporter's question and while emphasizing again Iran's constructive proposals since the start of war, stated: These proposals were very clear because they were aimed at the elimination of aggression and the punishment of the aggressor and at making the aggressor regret this action so that he would not repeat it, and it was also accepted by impartial and informed parties that the aggression has been committed by the Iraqi regime. The aggressor is identifyable and visible. This is not just our claim, this is something known to all those who are closely familiar with the issue of the war and who do not just learn about it in biased, Zionist, and Western news media, and they know what the solution is. They know that Iraq has been the aggressor and therefore, when it is known who the aggressor is, then the solution is also known. The aggressor must be punished and must sustain the consequences of the aggression just like the consequences of any sin.

Mr. Khamene'i stressed: Today our message to those sincere and faithful countries, countries that believe in peace, countries that are worried by the outbreak of such an event is that they must bring pressure to bear upon the Iraqi regime and force it to accept those certain and logical consequences of its aggression; and this, in our opinion, is the essential solution. The Pakistani reporter then asked about the relations between Iran and the region's Arab countries, to which the president replied:

In spite of the fluctuation in these relations, today they are good. This situation has been brought about, of course, through our sincere efforts and by those of some of the gulf countries. On the whole, our relations with Arab governments and countries are good and are improving day by day.

In reply to the Pakistani reporter's question on the president's visit to Pakistan, he said: Pakistan is one of the closest Islamic countries to us from the point of view of shared historical,

geographic, and cultural similarities, and the people of Pakistan are brothers who have much in common with us historically, culturally, linguistically, and also in literature and the arts. since Pakistan was formed on the basis of an Islamic society, that is another privilege which ties us to Pakistan. Therefore, for us Pakistan is a neighbor; a friendly and brother country; a great, sincere, and dear nation, and this trip can make these brotherly ties all the closer and make relations warmer and more pleasant, and the two nations will undoubtedly benefit from these close relations, just as outsiders will benefit from a separation between the two countries.

In conclusion, the president, referring to the negotiations which he will hold in Pakistan, stated: In the first instance, issues related to the two countries and relations between the two countries in various fields must be reviewed so that, God willing, the level of relations may rise even more. The president stressed: Also in Pakistan discussions will be held and opinions exchanged about world issues, the adoption of common stances, the problem of Afghanistan, and issues related to the Indian Ocean, which are extremely sensitive.

Besharati, Libyan Discuss 'Confrontation' With U.S.

LD121727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] In a meeting today with Besharati, our country's deputy foreign minister, the official responsible for the Libyan People's Bureau conveyed messages from his country's high-ranking officials regarding the threats made by U.S. imperialism and her allies against Libya. He also expressed the gratitude of the Libyan leader and people for the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Then, reiterating Iran's support for Libya in the face of U.S. aggression, the deputy foreign minister said: Iran's support for you is fundamental. There are no doubts in that respect. He added: The confrontation between America and our countries is natural, for we are adamant in our struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Due to this struggle, the illegitimate interests of colonialism have been threatened. Any action by America will be to her disadvantage.

Declaration Urges Muslims To Remove Funds From U.S.

LD112136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Foreign Ministry Declaration issued on 11 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. The Islamic Republic of Iran totally condemns the recent action by the U.S. administration freezing funds belonging to our brother country, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and urges all Islamic and Third World countries to oppose the theft of the Islamic countries' property and the terrorist-style actions of the U.S. administration.

The Islamic Republic of Iran asks all Islamic and Arab countries, as well as all countries opposed to domination by the superpowers, to remove their funds from U.S. banks so as to show the United States that they will resist any wholehearted [as heard] support offered to the Zionist regime and any threats aimed at the Islamic and Third World countries.

Indian Foreign Minister Arrives in Tehran 10 Jan

LD102104 Tehran IRNA in English 1926 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — India's minister of external affairs Bali Ram Bhagat arrived here for a second visit Friday night and was welcomed at Tehran Mehrabad Airport by Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Velayati, Iranian ambassador to New Delhi, Indian ambassador to Tehran and a group of staffers of the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

At the airport the visiting Indian minister expressed pleasure at his arrival in Tehran and also expressed hope his talks with Iranian officials in Tehran would help strengthen relations between the two countries.

The Indian minister is to participate at the third session of a joint Irano-India Commission.

Confers With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD122031 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] In Tehran this afternoon, Mr Bali Ram Bagat, the minister for foreign affairs of India, met with speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

At this meeting Baghat expressing his pleasure at visiting our country said: Our visit to the brotherly and friendly country of Iran has been a very successful affair. I personally have been impressed by the experience and maturity of the Iranian dignitaries. The Iranian officials want an independent economy and politics. They pursue peace and stability in the Persian Gulf. I believe, as the president of Iran has already reminded me, that Iran and India are the only two countries in the world who possess every potential for the expansion of bilateral relations. We can assisst each other and mutually contribute to regional peace and stability.

He added: The third joint commission was held between the two countries with very successful results, thanks to mutual understanding. We expect you to grant special attention to the expansion of bilateral relations.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, welcoming the Indian guests, said: Since the beginning of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, we have been asking for an expansion of relations with your country. We consider India among the most suitable countries for mutual ventures in the majority of fields. However, after 7 years, we have not reached the desired expansion, despite the absence of obstacles. We see no reason for India, leader of the nonaligned countries and part of the Third World, to own many resources, while we find ourselves having to seek relations with other countries to provide for the same needs. The same is true for

India. You gained experiences following your independence which may be of interest to us. We also have some resources that can be of benefit to you. Further, we have no problems with you in the field of international policies, and share the same views, generally speaking. You do not hold any designs on us, nor do we on you. However, I believe that bilateral contacts are limited. Considering the many common historical and cultural areas, we must expand such contacts and bilateral relations. We hope to see more of you in Iran and hope that we will be present in India to a larger extent.

The Indian external affairs minister, emphasizing the maintenance of peace and stability in the region said: We support peace in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. We affirm that the superpower's have no right to intervene in the regions; and should the regional powers unite, the superpowers will have to leave the region.

Concluding the meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed his hopes for the realization of this righteous demand.

Cultural, Technical Protocol Signed

LD122041 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 12, IRNA — Iran and India signed a protocol on bilateral cultural, scientific and technical exchanges and coopeation here Sunday. The protocol was signed by visiting Indian External Affairs Minister Bali Ram Bhagat and Iran's foreign affairs minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The Indian official who concluded his three day visit here Sunday said before his departure that he felt confident that mutual expectations on expansion of Irano-india ties hat the cultural protocol calls for bilateral cooperation in traditional areas of culture, and that it paves the way for two-way economic, industrial, scientific and technical collaboration between the two countries.

Iranian Minister Velayati who saw off Bhagat at Mehrabad Airport, said that the Islamic Republic and India, as two key Nonaligned Movement members have been working closely on wide-scale political cooperation during the past few years, adding that mutual collaboration is steadily increasing. Velayati said that the cultural exchange protocol signed Sunday will activate cooperation in different fields.

Discussed also during the visit of the Indian minister were views on the next session of the foreign ministers of Nonaligned Movement meet due to be held in Zimbabwe, as well as the joint positions of the two countries.

During his visit Mr Bhagat met with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, as well as some Iranian ministers.

He arrived here January 10, heading a high-ranking Indian External Affairs Ministry delegation.

Thai Delegation Arrives for Economic Talks

LD112146 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA — Thailand's deputy commerce minister, Phairote Chaiyaphon, arrived here Saturday at the head of an economic commercial delegation.

The deputy minister announced that his country will export rice, corn and starch products to Iran in lieu of cash payments for Iranian oil imports.

Iran's deputy minister of commerce Mojtaba Khosro-Taj who welcomed his Thai counterpart at the airport said that the Islamic Republic has purchased dlrs. 117 and 110 million of rice from Thailand during 1983-84 and 1984-85 respectively.

Khosro-Taj said the amount was reduced during the current Iranian year (began March 21), due to an imbalance in trade exchanges between the two countries to the benefit of Thailand.

The Islamic Republic has imported 225,000 tons of rice from Thailand since march 1985, Khosro-Taj said. The amount was between 30 to 70 million dollars in 1978-79 and 1976-77, he added.

The Iranian deputy minister expressed hope that negotiations between the two countries would have positive results.

During the current Iranian year, one container of Iranian apples has been sent to Thailand as a sample. Apple exports are to increase considerably, Khosro-Taj said.

The Thai delegation is on a five-day visit here.

New Shipping Terminal Opened at Bandar-e 'Abbas

LD101753 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormuzgan Prov., Jan 10, IRNA — The fourth terminal of Martyr Raja'i port complex was inaugurated here Wednesday and the cargo ship *Iran Torab* became the first vessel to berth at it. Minister of Roads and Transport Mohammad Seyyed Kiya attended the ceremony.

According to an official of the port and shipping organization the new terminal will add 2,500 tons shipweight to daily discharge of the port.

The official said compared to the early part of the present year (started March 21), the amount of marine transport via Bandar-e 'Abbas has considerably increased.

The average discharge capacity at Martyr Raja'i and Martyr Bahonar ports has reached 30,000 tons per day, up by 30 percent as compared to previous year, the official said. Some 360,000 tons of goods recently unloaded at the port will be transfered to different points inside the country, added the official.

Musavi Notes Discovery of New Oil Deposits

LD110053 Tehran IRNA in English 1836 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — In an interview with the Turkish daily *GUNESH* Prime Minister Musavi has said that Iran has discovered new oil resources and that in another six months the combined daily capacity of oil ports in Iran will reach six millions barrels.

The following are excerpts from Musavi's answers to the daily's reporter as published in the first installment of the interview on Thursday.

"We hope that next year's trade exchanges between Iran and Turkey will even exceed three billion dollars in value... We have discovered major oil reserves and in a near future the capacity of our oil export terminals will increase to six million barrels per day...

"Despite our country being embroiled in an unwanted war we do not owe a penny to any country of the world and Iran is the only country among the Third World nations and the developed countries for that matter with a perfect balance of payments...

"The Islamic Republic has respected OPEC quotas and will produce oil within its quota.

"The talks between Iran and Turkish delegations have satisfied both our countries. We have a close friendhsip with Mr Ozal which has brought the two countries closer together. Based on our talks I think our trade exchanges will exceed three billion dollars. The protocol between Iran and Turkey has very good outlook for the future.

"At the time being we continue to export oil from the Khark Island and we are bent on maintaining our oil export at the level prescribed by OPEC...."

Meanwhile the Turkish daily writes that at the early days of the establishment of the Islamic government in Iran foreign analsyts did not look upon the new political system in Iran as anything viable, and maintained that the revolution in Iran could not last for any more than two years.

The daily's reporter says in his interview with Prime Minister Musavi in Tehran he had seen a poster in his office reading "The Islamic Republic does not owe a penny to any foreign country, but some four to five billion dollars are creditted to it allowing for past interest rates on loans."

Air Force Conducts First Extensive Successful Maneuver

LD131035 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13, IRNA — Tens of jet fighters, bombers and fuel tankers participated in an extensive maneuver successfully conducted last week. It was the first of such maneuvers by the Islamic Air Force after the victory of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

A number of Air Force bases were involved in this big maneuver named after the late Egyptian soldier Martyr Sulayman Khatir [word indistinct] the Iranian [word indistinct] in achieving predetermined targets, as well as the speed of this technical [words indistinct] important factors in successful holding this highly qualitative maneuver which lasted for several days.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA, Air Force Commander Colonel Houshang Seddiq said here Monday that Iran's Air force was fully prepared to launch, if necessary, a massive attack against Iraq.

On the objective of the maneuver, he said it was to assess the maximum combat capability of the participating air force bases and the swiftness of the technical personnel, which, he said, set an interesting record.

He said Iranian jet fighters launched two missions over a distance of 200 miles, within 2 and 1/2 hours, which is "an interesting record."

He said real bombs had been used in the maneuver and that the operation was "highly successful and beyond our expectation."

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,346

LD101754 Tehran IRNA in English 1732 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 10, IRNA — In battle action [word indistinct] Muslim combatants shelled Iraqi positions and fortifications and silenced enemy's artillery fire in northwestern fronts, killing or wounding a large number of Iraqi soldiers and destroying some Iraqi bunkers, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces Here Friday.

In its Communique Number 2346, the Command said that Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi troops from fortifying their positions in Sardasht region, and halted enemy vehicles movements in operational region of Seyyed Khan.

The Command further said that Iranian Muslim combatants shelled Iraqi positions in western fronts killing or wounding several Iraqi troops and demolished six bunkers. Also two munitions depots and some vehicles were set ablaze, as a result of the shelling.

In Sumar region Iran's Mulsim combatants subjected Iraqi positions and tanks to their artillery fire inflicting heavy damages and casualties on the enemy, the communique said.

In Kharratha operational region, Iranian patrol units clashed with the Ba'thist patrols being forced to flee sustaining casualties, the Joint Staff added.

The Command said that in southern fronts, Iranian Muslim combatants shelled Iraq command outposts, positions as well as supply routes inflicting damages and casualties on the enemy.

Elsewhere, it said that Iranian Gendarmerie fire silenced Iraqi artillery fire in Zobeydah and Arvand River operational regions demolishing some Iraqi bunkers and killing or wounding a number of [words indistinct].

Communique No 2,347

LD111631 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 11, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi [word indistinct] western front Friday, killed or wounded at least 25 Iraqi soldiers and destroyed 10 artillery emplacements and observation posts together with two munitions dumps of theirs, according to a military communique published by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Saturday.

In its Communique Number 2347, the Command says that Iraqi tanks and their armoured units in areas overlooking Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin came under heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants Friday resulting in substantial casualties and losses on them.

The command further says that an Iraqi fuel tanker was set ablaze in the northwestern fronts Friday as it was hit by Iranian artillery fire.

Artillery duels beteween Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops raged somewhat more heavily in Now Sud and Dashte-zahab (western fronts) Friday during which Iranian artillery fire prevailed over the Iraqi fire, reports the Joint Staff.

Elsewhere the Joint Staff says that artillery fire of Iranian combatants checked the movement of an Iraqi armoured unit in Yabis region in the southern fronts and that Iran's Gendarmerie inflicted considerable casualties and losses on Iraqi troops across the Arvand River Friday.

Meanwhile the [name indistinct] province was hit by Iraqi long-range artillery fire Friday during which some houses in the city were damaged.

Communique No 2,348

LD121702 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 12, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants exchanged fire with Iraqi troops in the Western fronts on Saturday, killing or wounding at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and destroying several bunkers and two munitions dumps of theirs, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Sunday.

In its Communique Number 2348, the Command says that Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses in the southern and northwestern fronts Saturday when their positions were hit and attacked by Iranian artillery fire and patrol units.

In Yabis region on the southern fronts, the communique says that Iran's Muslim forces smashed an attempted attack by a group [words indistinct] artillery Saturday inflicting substantial casualties and damage on them.

The communique further says that Iran's Gendarmerie patrols checked Iraqi transport operations in Dehloran, Ilam, Qasr-e Shirin operational regions and their artillery fire on Iraqi positions inflicted heavy casualties and losses on them.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was shelled by Iraqi forces saturday as a result of which some houses were damaged.

Iraqi Counterattacks Repulsed

GF120534 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] More than 100 Iraqi troops were kiled by the warriors of Islam in the Hawr al-'Azim area during two enemy counterattacks which were foiled.

According to a report by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Joint Operational Headquarters, the soldiers of the Islamic army on the nights of 10 and 11 January, with their usual awareness and resistance, succeeded in identifying two enemy counterattacks in the Hawr al-'Azim area. In foiling the two attempts, they inflicted more casualties and damage on the Iraqi Army.

During these clashes, the enemy forces, who were trying to capture the positions of the Islamic warriors, encountered resistance from our troops.

This report also indicates that the soldiers of Islam destroyed 20 motorboats, 2 landing crafts, and 2 enemy boats carrying ammunition, and killed more than 100 of their troops, forcing the Iraqi forces to flee and withdraw from the area.